

## **IS THE SUMMER SCHOLARS PROGRAM RIGHT FOR ME OR MY DAUGHTER/SON?**

Below are some common questions and answers regarding the Summer Scholars program. We ask that parents and students read this information carefully before deciding to apply.

### ***Is this program the right fit for me/my child?***

The Summer Scholars Program was originally designed for talented, high potential students from a variety of disadvantaged backgrounds. Disadvantage is broadly defined and can include underrepresented minority status, socioeconomic disadvantage, lack of educational exposure or geography (i.e. living in a community far from resources needed to prepare for a health career) . It is most appropriate for students who have an aptitude for math and science but who may need an academic “boost” to help them be competitive for a health science career.

It is important to note that the classroom –based, basic science components are not accelerated. The curriculum is designed to strengthen the basic science skills of students through review or by remediating areas of difficulty. **Therefore, if a student has received good grades in IB or AP science courses, they may not feel challenged in the basic science component of this program.** However, the advanced science student may still benefit from other aspects of the program, if he/she is willing to participate in review work in basic sciences.

### ***Will most of the time be spent in clinical rotations? How is the program structured?***

For the Summer Scholars Program, the bulk of the program occurs in the classroom, although there are hands-on and clinical rotations. About 30% of the time per day is spent in basic science enrichment (Chemistry and Anatomy/Physiology), 10-20% in a clinical or other rotation, and the other 50% of the time is spent in skill-building and career awareness experiences, including a physician speakers series, a health career seminar and other skill-building components. Students develop self awareness, interview, teamwork skills and test-taking skills and a knowledge of health disparities.

In summary, Summer Scholars is a comprehensive program. Therefore, if a student is looking for a program that focuses mainly on physician shadowing and clinical exposure, this program may not be the right fit for them.

In contrast, 80% of the student’s experience in the **Advanced Summers Scholars Program** involves clinical rotations. Advanced Summer Scholars are students who have gone through the Summer Scholars Program and return for a second summer to focus on clinical and research areas.

### ***Why is there a strict dress code?***

The medical school is a professional school. Students who are in the Summer Scholars Program rotate through a variety of hospital settings and come in contact with patients. They must adhere to the hospital dress codes which emphasize a neat and professional appearance.